

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 11749 130758Z

16
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 119311

R 130746Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0362
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T BONN 11749

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, GW, WB, UR, EEC
SUBJECT: FRG FOREIGN MINISTRY THINKING ABOUT FUTURE
NEGOTIATIONS ON BERLIN

REF: BONN 11061

BEGIN SUMMARY. FRG FOREIGN MINISTRY PLANNING DIRECTOR
KLAUS BLECH HAS ALSO TOLD US THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY
PLANS BERLIN-RELATED TALKS WITH THE SOVIETS AFTER
THE GERMAN ELECTIONS. END SUMMARY

1. BLECH TOLD THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR THAT THE
RUSSIANS KEPT STRESSING TO THE GERMANS HOW THEY
(THE RUSSIANS) WANTED TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC. AT THE SAME TIME, THE RUSSIANS
DEMONSTRATED GREAT SENSITIVITY REGARDING THE QUESTION
OF BERLIN.

2. BLECH SAID THE FOREIGN MINISTRY BELIEVED THAT
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BONN 11749 130758Z

THE RUSSIAN INTEREST IN IMPROVED RELATIONS COULD BE

USED TO FURTHER FRG-BERLIN TIES. HE SAID THIS NEED NOT BE DONE THROUGH FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS. THE FRG WAS PLANNING NO FORMAL TALKS WITH THE SOVIET UNION EXCEPT ON THE THREE OUTSTANDING AGREEMENTS. HOWEVER, THERE COULD BE A LOT OF INFORMAL CONTACTS WHICH WOULD LEAD TO COORDINATED ACTIONS THAT COULD HELP BERLIN.

3. BLECH RECOUNTED A RECENT CONVERSATION WITH A SENIOR SOVIET OFFICIAL HERE (NOT AT THE EMBASSY) DURING WHICH BLECH HAD TOLD THE RUSSIAN THAT GERMAN OFFICES IN WEST BERLIN WERE NOT SUBJECT TO RUSSIAN CHALLENGE BECAUSE THEY HAD BEEN SANCTIONED BY THE WESTERN ALLIES WHO HAD SUPREME AUTHORITY IN THE WESTERN SECTORS. BLECH SUGGESTED THAT THE RUSSIAN HAD BEEN UNABLE TO FORMULATE A PERSUASIVE COUNTER.

4. COMMENT: BLECH'S CONFIRMATION OF GERMAN INTENT TO TALK TO THE RUSSIANS ABOUT BERLIN INDICATES THAT THIS IS NOT JUST VAN WELL'S IDEA BUT THAT THE NOTION HAS CONSIDERABLE STANDING. WE WILL TRY TO LEARN MORE DETAILS AS THE TIME DRAWS CLOSER.

5. ONE NOTEWORTHY POINT IS BLECH'S INSISTENCE TO THE RUSSIAN THAT THE SOVIETS COULD NOT CHALLENGE ANYTHING THAT THE WESTERN ALLIES WISHED TO DO IN WEST BERLIN. THIS RECALLS THE POSITION THAT THE GERMANS TOOK IN THEIR EARLY DRAFT REPLIES TO THE RECENT RUSSIAN STATEMENT, TO WIT, THAT TRIPARTITE AUTHORITY IN THE WESTERN SECTORS WAS SUPREME WITHOUT REFERENCE TO QUADRIPARTITE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES. WE DOUBT THAT THIS REFLECTS A COHERENT NEW GERMAN LEGAL DOCTRINE REGARDING BERLIN'S STATUS. HOWEVER, IF THIS PARALLELISM IS NOT PURELY COINCIDENTAL, IT SUGGESTS THAT THE GERMANS ARE AT LEAST NOW MOVING TOWARD FAR GREATER STRESS ON DEVELOPMENTS IN WEST BERLIN WITH LESS CONCERN FOR ALLIED RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN EAST BERLIN. WE WILL HAVE TO AWAIT FURTHER DETAILS, HOWEVER, BEFORE COMMENTING AUTHORITATIVELY ON THIS POINT.

6. IT IS ALSO NOTEWORTHY THAT BLECH, UNLIKE VAN WELL,
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 BONN 11749 130758Z

DID NOT STRESS THE RUSSIAN DESIRE FOR GREATER GERMAN CREDITS. INSTEAD, HE APPEARED TO BELIEVE THAT THE RUSSIAN INTEREST IN BETTER TIES WITH THE FRG WOULD PROVIDE SUFFICIENT INCENTIVE FROM MOSCOW. END COMMENT.
HILLENBRAND

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MEETING AGENDA, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BONN11749
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760269-0186
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760766/aaaacfm.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 BONN 11061
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <12 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG FOREIGN MINISTRY THINKING ABOUT FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS ON BERLIN
TAGS: PFOR, GE, WB, UR, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006